The CMS Quarterly Provider Update January 2006

What's New

If you do not want to check this page daily, but want to be informed when other items have been added to this page, sign up for The CMS-QPU Listserv. An e-mail message will be sent periodically throughout the quarter as regulations and program instructions are added to the CMS Quarterly Provider Update.

02/24/2006

REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

CMS-1306-CN, entitled "Medicare Program, Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities Prospective Payment System Payment Update for Rate Year Beginning July 1, 2006 (RY 2007), Correction and Extension of Comment Period," was released. This regulation affects Hospitals. <u>View CMS-1306-CN</u>

CMS-1332-NC, entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Announcement of an Application From a Hospital Requesting a Waiver From Its Designated Organ Procurement Service Area," was released. This regulation affects Other CMS Business. <u>View CMS-1332-NC</u>

CMS-1502-F2, entitled "Medicare Program, Revisions to Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule for Calendar Year 2006 and Certain provisions Related to the Competitive Acquisition Program of Outpatient Drugs and Biologicals Under Part B, Correcting Amendment," was released. This regulation affects Physicians. <u>View CMS-1502-F2</u>

CMS-2227-FN, entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs, Approval of Deeming Authority of the Accreditation Commission for Healthcare (ACHC) for Home Health Agencies," was released. This regulation affects Home Health Agencies. <u>View CMS-2227-FN</u>

CMS-4115-N, entitled "Medicare Program, Request for Nominations for the Advisory Panel on Medicare Education," was released. This regulation affects Other CMS Business. <u>View CMS-4115-N</u>

CMS-6272-IFC, entitled "Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) Amendments," was released. This regulation affects All Providers. **View CMS-6272-IFC**

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 91 of the Medicare Financial Management Manual, entitled "Clarification of Instructions in Pub. 100-6, Chapter 5 Financial Reporting, Section 310.4 - Line 4(a) through (e), Reclassified CNC Debt (Principal & Entire 1), "was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 91 (PDF - 120 KB)

Transmittal 857 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Update - Payment Limit for J7620 (Albuterol and Ipratropium Bromide, non-compounded)," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 857 (PDF - 85 KB)

Transmittal 861 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Sunset of the Policies for Provider Nominations for an Intermediary and the Provider Requests for a Change of Intermediary - Revisions to Publication 100-04, Chapter 1, Section 20.," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 861 (PDF - 81 KB)

Transmittal 862 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Appeals of Claims Decisions: Administrative Law Judge; Departmental Appeals Board; U.S. District Court Review," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 862 (PDF - 79 KB)

Transmittal 863 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Update to Chapter 20, Billing for Oxygen and Oxygen Equipment, Section 130.6," was released. This instruction affects Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies.

View the complete text of Transmittal 863 (PDF - 80 KB)

Transmittal 867 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "
Elimination of the Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERC)
Information Form (DIF)," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 867 (PDF - 72 KB)

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -- MID-QUARTER

Transmittal 79 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual, entitled "Changes in MCM Chapter 11, Medicare Advantage Application Procedures and Contract Requirements," was released. This instruction affects Medicare + Choice.

View the complete text of Transmittal 79 (PDF - 320 KB)

Transmittal 859 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Remittance Advice Remark Code and Claim Adjustment Reason Code

Update," was released. This instruction affects Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies.

View the complete text of Transmittal 859 (PDF - 137 KB)

Transmittal 864 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for April 2006," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 864 (PDF - 52 KB)

02/15/2006

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 856 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "January 2006 Quarterly Average Sales Price (ASP) Medicare Part B Drug Pricing File, Effective January 1, 2006, and Revisions to April 2005, July 2005, and October 2005 Quarterly ASP Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Files," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 856 (PDF - 137 KB)

02/10/2006

REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

CMS-1126-RCN, entitled "Medicare Program; Provider Bad Debt Payment; Extension of Timeline for Publication of Final Rule," was released. This regulation affects All Providers. <u>View CMS-1126-RCN</u>

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED – ADMINISTRATOR AUTHORIZED

Transmittal 210 of the One-Time Notification Manual, entitled "Creation of a Second Participation Enrollment Period for 2006," was released. This instruction affects Physicians.

View the complete text of Transmittal 210 (PDF - 156 KB)

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 35 of the Medicare General Information, Eligibility, and Entitlement Manual, entitled "Revisions to Instructions for Contractors Other Than the Religious Nonmedical Health Care Institution (RNHCI) Specialty Contractor Regarding Claims for Beneficiaries with RNHCI Elections," was released. This instruction affects Religious Non-Medical Health Care Institutions.

View the complete text of Transmittal 35 (PDF - 66 KB)

Transmittal 44 of the Benefit Policy Manual, entitled "Update to the ESRD Composite Payment Rates," was released. This instruction affects Renal

Dialysis Facilities.

View the complete text of Transmittal 44 (PDF - 106 KB)

Transmittal 45 of the Benefit Policy Manual, entitled "Revisions to Instructions for Contractors Other Than the Religious Nonmedical Health Care Institution (RNHCI) Specialty Contractor Regarding Claims for Beneficiaries with RNHCI Elections," was released. This instruction affects Religious Non-Medical Health Care Institutions.

View the complete text of Transmittal 45 (PDF - 106 KB)

Transmittal 207 of the One-Time Notification Manual, entitled "New 2006 Payment Rate for Services Paid Under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals, Physicians and Non-Physician Practitioners.

View the complete text of Transmittal 207 (PDF - 167 KB)

Transmittal 209 of the One-Time Notification Manual, entitled "Q4080 - Change in HCPCS Code Descriptor," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals, Physicians, Non-Physician Practitioners and Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies.

View the complete text of Transmittal 209 (PDF - 107 KB)

Transmittal 211 of the One-Time Notification Manual, entitled "Temporary 5 Percent Payment Increase for Home Health Services Furnished in a Rural Area for One Year Under the Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS), Change of the HH PPS Calendar Year (CY) 2006 Update from that of 2.8 Percent Update (Home Health Market Basket Update of 3.6 Minus 0.8 Percentage Point) to that of a Zero Percent Update," was released. This instruction affects Home Health Agencies.

View the complete text of Transmittal 211 (PDF - 43 KB)

Transmittal 846 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "New Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Consolidated Billing (CB) Web site Address," was released. This instruction affects Skilled Nursing Facilities.

View the complete text of Transmittal 846 (PDF - 107 KB)

Transmittal 849 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Update to the ESRD Composite Payment Rates," was released. This instruction affects Renal Dialysis Facilities.

View the complete text of Transmittal 849 (PDF - 153 KB)

Transmittal 850 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Change Payment Floor Date for Paper Claims," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 850 (PDF - 129 KB)

Transmittal 851 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Revisions to Instructions for Contractors Other Than the Religious Nonmedical Health

Care Institution (RNHCI) Specialty Contractor Regarding Claims for Beneficiaries with RNHCI Elections," was released. This instruction affects Religious Non-Medical Health Care Institutions.

View the complete text of Transmittal 851 (PDF - 399 KB)

Transmittal 852 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Ambulance Fee Schedule - CY 2006 Update: Correction to CR 4061," was released. This instruction affects Skilled Nursing Facilities.

View the complete text of Transmittal 852 (PDF - 121 KB)

02/01/2006

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 201 of the One-Time Notification Manual, entitled "Calculation of the Interim Payment of Indirect Medical Education (IME) Through the Inpatient PPS PRICER for Hospitals That Received an Increase to Their Full-time Equivalent Resident Caps Under Section 422 of the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA), P.L. 108-173," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 201 (PDF - 229 KB)

Transmittal 203 of the One-Time Notification Manual, entitled "Revision for PPS Payment for Blood Clotting Factor Administered to Hemophilia Inpatients," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 203 (PDF - 110 KB)

Transmittal 204 of the One-Time Notification Manual, entitled "Stage 1 Use and Editing of National Provider Identifier Numbers Received in Electronic Data Interchange Transactions, via Direct Data Entry Screens, or on Paper Claim Forms," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 204 (PDF - 110 KB)

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -- MID-QUARTER

Transmittal 824 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Quarterly Update to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits, V12.1, Effective April 1, 2006," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 824 (PDF - 142 KB)

Transmittal 826 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "April Quarterly Update to the 2006 Annual Update of HCPCS Codes Used for Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Consolidated Billing (CB) Enforcement," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 826 (PDF - 999 KB)

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED - ADMINISTRATOR AUTHORIZED

Transmittal 136 of the Medicare Program Integrity Manual, entitled "Policy

Changes to Program Integrity Manual," was released. This instruction affects hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 136 (PDF - 117 KB)

Transmittal 825 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "System Edits for Respiratory Assist Devices (RADs) with Bi-Level Capability and a Back-Up Rate," was released. This instruction affects Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies.

View the complete text of Transmittal 825 (PDF - 999 KB)

01/27/2006

REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

CMS-1167-F, entitled "Medicare Program; Payment for Respiratory Assist Devices With Bi-Level Capability and a Backup Rate," was released. This regulation affects REG_PROVIDERS. <u>View CMS-1167-F</u>

CMS-1318-N, entitled "Meeting of the Practicing Physicians Advisory Council, March 6, 2006," was released. This regulation affects REG_PROVIDERS. View CMS-1318-N

CMS-1328-N, entitled "February 15, 2006 Town Hall Meeting on the Practice Expense Methodology Including the Proposal From the Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule for Calendar Year 2006," was released. This regulation affects REG_PROVIDERS. <u>View CMS-1328-N</u>

CMS-1485-N, entitled "Prospective Payment System for Long-Term Care Hospitals RY 2007: Proposed Annual Payment Rate Updates, Policy Changes, and Clarification," was released. This regulation affects REG_PROVIDERS. **View CMS-1485-P**

CMS-2228-PN, entitled "Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Application by the TUV Healthcare Specialists for Deeming Authority for Hospitals," was released. This regulation affects REG_PROVIDERS. <u>View CMS-2228-PN</u>

CMS-3144-FN, entitled "Medicare Program; Approval of adjustment in Payment Amounts for New Technology Intraocular Lenses Furnished by Ambulatory Surgical Centers," was released. This regulation affects REG_PROVIDERS. <u>View CMS-3144-FN</u>

CMS-3162-N, entitled "Medicare Program; Meeting of the Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee--March 30, 2006," was released. This regulation affects REG_PROVIDERS. <u>View CMS-3162-N</u>

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 46 of the Medicare National Coverage Determinations Manual, entitled "Cardiac Catheterization Performed in Other Than a Hospital Setting," was released. This instruction affects Physicians.

View the complete text of Transmittal 46 (PDF - 77 KB)

Transmittal 819 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Modification to QR Modifier Edit for Automatic Implantable Cardiac Defibrillator (ICD) Services," was released. This instruction affects Physicians and Outpatient Physical Therapy.

View the complete text of Transmittal 819 (PDF - 104 KB)

01/23/2006

REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

CMS-1306-P, entitled "Medicare Program; Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities Prospective Payment System Payment Update for Rate Year Beginning July 1, 2006 (RY 2007)," was released. This regulation affects Hospitals.

View CMS-1306-P

01/20/2006

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 37 of Demonstrations, entitled "Revisions to CR 3816 - Low Vision Rehabilitation Demonstration," was released. This instruction affects Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities, Outpatient Physical Therapy, Physicians and Non-Physician Practitioners.

View the complete text of Transmittal 37 (PDF - 143 KB)

Transmittal 813 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Instructions for the Payment of Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) and Physician Scarcity Area (PSA) Bonuses When the Place of Service (POS) is "Home", "was released. This instruction affects Physicians.

View the complete text of Transmittal 813 (PDF - 95 KB)

Transmittal 816 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Coverage and Billing for Ultrasound Stimulation for Nonunion Fracture Healing," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 816 (PDF - 101 KB)

Transmittal 817 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Update to the Inpatient Provider Specific File (IPSF) and the Outpatient Provider Specific File (OPSF) to Retain Provider Information," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 817 (PDF - 484 KB)

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -- MID-QUARTER

Transmittal 78 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual, entitled "Revisions to Chapter 5, "Quality Improvement."," was released. This instruction affects Medicare + Choice.

View the complete text of Transmittal 78 (PDF - 601 KB)

Transmittal 814 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Claim Status Category Code and Claim Status Code Update," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 814 (PDF - 106 KB)

Transmittal 815 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTC) Update," was released. This instruction affects All Providers. <u>View the complete text of Transmittal 815 (PDF - 101 KB)</u>

01/19/2006

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -- MID-QUARTER

Transmittal 90 of the Medicare Financial Management Manual, entitled "Recurring Update Notification for the Notice of New Interest Rate for Medicare Overpayments and Underpayments," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 90 (PDF - 117 KB)

01/17/2006

REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

CMS-1501-CN2 -- Correction, entitled "Medicare Program; Changes to the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System and Calendar Year 2006 Payment Rates; Correction," was released. This regulation affects Physicians.

View CMS-1501-CN2 [correction]

01/13/2006

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 200 of the Medicare One-Time Special Notification Manual, entitled "Mandatory Transition to New Registry That Satisfies Medicare Data Reporting Requirements for Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators (ICDs)," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 200 (PDF - 121 KB)

Transmittal 809 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Update to

Payment Rates for Religious Non medical Health Care Institution Services Furnished in the Home, Calendar Year 2006," was released. This instruction affects Religious Non-Medical Health Care Institutions.

View the complete text of Transmittal 809 (PDF - 144 KB)

Transmittal 811 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Teaching Physician Services," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 811 (PDF - 165 KB)

Transmittal 811 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Teaching Physician Services," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 812 (PDF - 123 KB)

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED - ADMINISTRATOR AUTHORIZED

Transmittal 89 of the Medicare Financial Management Manual, entitled "Mandated Use of Autoload Program in STAR, System Tracking for Audit and Reimbursement," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 89 (PDF - 125 KB)

01/12/2006

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 9 of the Medicare Provider Reimbursement Manual Part 2, entitled "Renal Dialysis Facility for Cost Reporting Form CMS-265-94," was released. This instruction affects All Providers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 9 (PDF - 381 KB)

01/10/2006

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 16 of the Medicare State Operations Manual, entitled "Revisions to Chapter 2, "The Certification Process," Appendix E-- "Providers of Outpatient Physical Therapy or Outpatient Speech Language Pathology (OPT/OSP) Services," and Appendix K-- "Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities"," was released. This instruction affects Outpatient Physical Therapy.

View the complete text of Transmittal 16 (PDF - 649 KB)

01/06/2006

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 805 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Annual Update to the Therapy Code List," was released. This instruction affects Outpatient Physical Therapy, Non-Physician Practitioners and Physicians.

View the complete text of Transmittal 805 (PDF - 372 KB)

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -- MID-QUARTER

Transmittal 808 of the Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Nursing Facility Services (Codes 99304 - 99318)," was released. This instruction affects Skilled Nursing Facilities.

View the complete text of Transmittal 808 (PDF - 333 KB)

01/03/2006

INSTRUCTIONS RELEASED -- MANUALIZATION/CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

Transmittal 803 of the Claims Processing Manual, entitled "Administration of Drugs and Biologicals in a Method II Critical Access Hospital (CAH)," was released. This instruction affects Hospitals.

View the complete text of Transmittal 803 (PDF - 139 KB)

Transmittal 804 of the Claims Processing Manual, entitled "January 2006 Update of the Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS): Summary of Payment Policy Changes, OPPS PRICER Logic Changes, and Instructions for Updating the Outpatient Provider Specific File (OPSF)," was released. This instruction affects Community Mental Health Centers.

View the complete text of Transmittal 804 (PDF - 1 MB)